

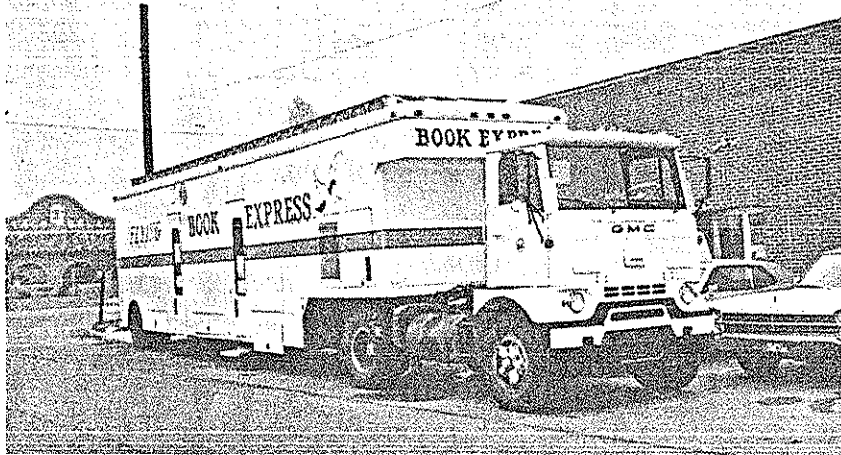
LIBRARY COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

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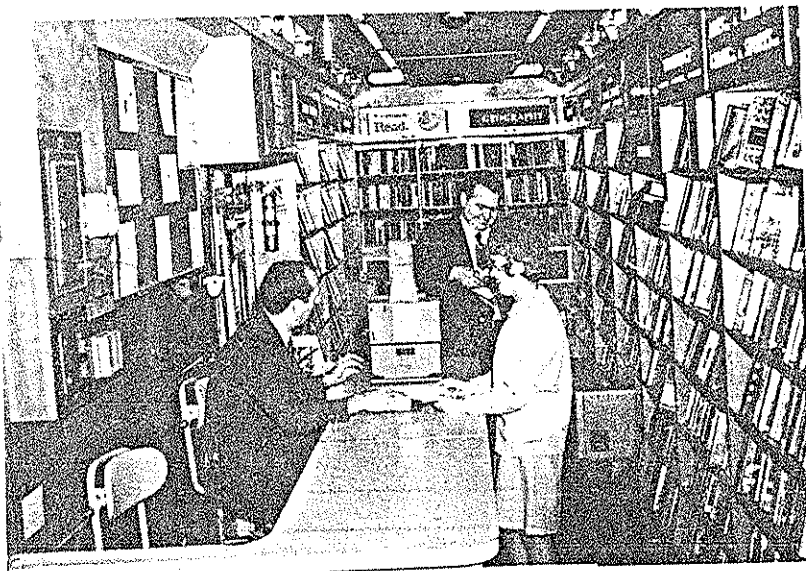


FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOOK EXPRESS

The staff of this mobile branch library paused on November 7 to blow out five candles on a giant birthday cake. The forty foot trailer featured here was the pioneer in the Library Commission's new direct service program. Original tractor (gasoline model) lacked adequate power for the mountain service, was replaced three years ago by a diesel.

In October 1964, six counties of the state had no public libraries. These were Boone, Wyoming, Webster, Gilmer, Lincoln, and Summers counties. A forty foot trailer, The Flying Book Express, was purchased by the Library Commission to provide a branch type service in the county seats of these six counties. The service caught the fancy of the modern mountaineer, and so a second unit, The Read-O-Rama, was introduced two years later in nine communities of Mercer, McDowell, and Logan Counties.

In five years of service, an impressive record has been logged: 25,592 patrons have registered who borrowed 715,056 volumes. Several unique service approaches of the Express Units are: limited service stops with trailers parked for seven to eight hours near a community center - a drugstore, a supermarket or a courthouse - only fifteen locations in nine counties. Special requests can be placed with the library assistant on the trailer and books are mailed directly to the resident.

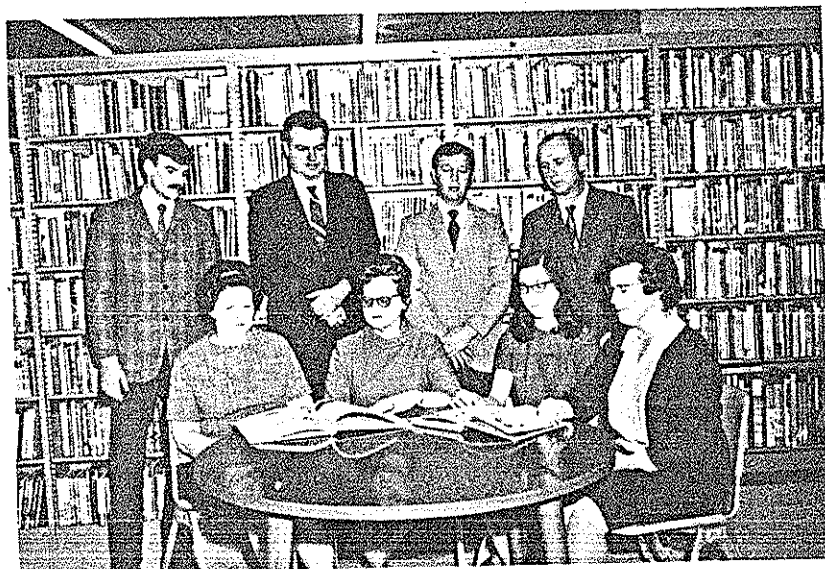


INTERIOR OF THE EXPRESS

The team which makes the unit go, Gene Holstein and Charles Vassar, are no doubt enjoying a good story as Carol Parsons visits. The success of this unit is due to their pride in never missing a scheduled stop (one day in five years was weathered out!)

BOOK EXPRESS STAFF

Miss Mary Jenkins, (right) library consultant, heads a staff of eight who set a lively pace to make public library service a reality instead of a dream in fifteen counties of West Virginia. Left to right: Clerical staff - Mary Lou Hudson, Ruth Hutzler, Sandara Withrow. Standing: Herb Beckett, Charles Vassar, Keith Lanham, and Gene Holstein, the traveling corps.



VOLUNTEERS AT HINTON

The busiest stop on the Book Express schedule is in Summers County. Part of the reason for this success is the excellent volunteer aid. Standing are: Mrs. Hazel Davidson and Mrs. John Holstein. Seated are: Carolyn Teabo, Wendy Cox, Ann Clark, and Phyllis Butts. Hundreds of local residents give volunteer service on the mobile units, at least fifty having been regular workers over the five year history of the Express.

Since the cycle of visits is set only for a return every three weeks, the mail service has achieved a great popularity among students and researchers of all ages.

A microfilm camera, the Regiscope, has kept personnel costs of the loan operation to a minimum. Overdue notices are processed by reader-printer. The staff employed on each unit has been limited to a professional driver-clerk and a library assistant who helps to find materials and serves as a liason in the local community.

Fifteen libraries receive supplementary assistance from the Express Office; special requests are filtered through this office, with advanced level requests being placed on the Teletype Network for service from larger libraries. A growing percentage of these inter-library loans can be supplied from the collection housed in the Book Express Office, comprising of 82,000 volumes. The library materials are becoming more varied in content with 2,554 recordings; some West Virginia history and Negro history; embryo foreign language collection in French, Spanish, and Italian, and Large Print books. Libraries affiliated with this office are Raleigh County, Fayette County, Princeton Public, Bluefield Public, Logan Woman's Club, Richwood Public, Greenbrier County at Lewisburg, White Sulphur Springs, Pocahontas County, Wyoming County, and Elizabeth Stephenson Memorial in Summersville.

CASSETTE PLAYERS
AVAILABLE
FOR LIMITED USE

The handicapped student who finds the Talking Book Machine a little clumsy will welcome this new device which weighs only seven pounds. It plays magnetic Cassette tapes (2½" X 4½" in size) with a running time of 30 minutes

on each side. This is a far more compact package than the disc style Talking Book.

The Library of Congress has shipped 48 General Electric M8-350 machines to West Virginia. The first opportunity to use these machines is being offered to Veterans who are registered for Talking Book Service. They will be shipped to Regional and Service Center Libraries for demonstration and short loan this month. Materials available for use in these machines will be limited to study materials and children's books.

NON-RESIDENT
TUITION GRANTS

Mr. Clarence Brock, Assistant State Superintendent of Schools, reports that the program for payment of non-resident tuition at two library schools has been continued for this year. The arrangements are authorized

through the Southern Regional Education Board's Tuition Aid Program. The University of North Carolina and the University of Maryland's graduate schools of library service are the only schools where payment is authorized. The applicant must secure admission to the Library School, then contact either the Library Commission or Mr. Brock. Summer School can also be covered.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
FOR
TRUSTEES AND STAFF

Grants of \$1,000 for Trustee and Staff Orientation have been made available to each Regional and Service Center Library by the Library Commission. Legally appointed trustee boards and their staff members can

apply for coverage of expenses: at institutes, workshops, conventions, and for visits to new library buildings and to Systems Centers. "Seeing is believing" is a wise old saw which applies here. Reimbursement will be made on the basis of bona-fide expenses incurred for a pre-approved trip.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Other Scholarship Opportunities: Applications are now being accepted for 1970 Library Binding Institute \$1,000 scholarship award. Graduates, undergraduates, and librarians who are doing research in a special area through a library school are eligible. Deadline is January 12. Contact Dr. Frank Sessa, Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15211.

Annual Scholarships of \$2,500 to further library education at the graduate level are awarded through the American Library Association. Contact Dorothy Bevis, School of Librarianship, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98105. Deadline January 12.

LIBRARY WORKSHOP IN MIRACLE VALLEY REGION

"Your Library Role: Explain, Exhibit, and Explore," was the theme of the workshop in which librarians and trustees from seven libraries participated at Moundsville on Friday, November 21. An estimated forty participants attended from the following libraries: City-County of Moundsville, Cameron Branch, New Martinsville Public, Paden City Public, Sistersville Public, Tyler County of Middlebourne, and Pleasants County of St. Marys.

Miss Jeanine Kreyenbuhl, Library Director of the College of Stuebenville, discussed basic Reference Books during the opening session. Librarians were warned about the dangers of recommending particular encyclopedias for purchase if inquiries came to their desks. The particular strengths of several encyclopedias were reviewed. General Encyclopedias in Print, published in 1969 by R. R. Bowker, was indicated as the best referral source of purchasers.

Mrs. Maxine Davidson, new Director of the City-County Library at Moundsville, illustrated methods of making three dimensional posters to advertise books and library services. Her displays were so eye-catching that her audience suggested that she loan them to neighboring libraries.

Three trustees, William F. Dalzell, Chairman of the Moundsville Board, Dr. David Chadwick, Chairman of New Martinsville Board, and Mrs. George West of Pleasants County, participated in a panel discussion with Frances Jones, Field Consultant from the Library Commission. Mr. Dalzell related the history of the Regional development; Dr. Chadwick told of a Do-It-Yourself style remodeling program and a Special Library Stamp devised by New Martinsville; Mrs. West explained that the Board of Pleasants County Library was a new one with plans to move the library into a new location.

Miss Jones reported on the proposal to increase state aid for public library service to 40¢ per capita, asking for support for the Library Commission's state budget request. She emphasized that many libraries are failing to open for hours which are convenient for their potential patrons. Noon hour, dinner, and evening hours are the most appropriate times to reach working adults. They will often drop by a library when en-route to a meeting or on a shopping errand. If public libraries hope for improved public support, service hours must be geared to public needs.

Thirty-four were served a lunch by library staff and some twenty stayed for dinner at Reilly's.

OUTSTANDING GIFTS
TOWARD
BUILDINGS

R. W. Wilkinson, Chairman of the new library board in Bluefield, reports a donation of \$135,000 from Jack Craft. The purpose of the gift was to provide matching funds toward a proposed \$750,000 public library building. Craft had started business in 1926, operating a bus between Welch and Pineville over unpaved roads. This later became The Consolidated Bus Company. Just a few hours after the transfer of stock occurred, Mr. Craft died of a heart attack in Houston, Texas. A recent biography of Craft is "Wheels on the Mountains."

Preliminary architectural work is in progress on this structure. The "air-conditioned" city is making rapid strides in upgrading its public library service. Improved operating budget, new equipment, and staff give assurance of an effective program. J. D. King, architectural consultant for the Library Commission, and Frances Jones, Field Consultant, visited with the Bluefield Rotarians on November 5 to clarify certain issues in connection with the proposed structure. The Matthews fund is an endowment established by the new board to supplement tax support.

In Clarksburg, the library board has a very successful history of attracting gifts. Mrs. C. C. Jarvis recently bequeathed \$10,000 to be used in its building fund. The presentation was made by her son, James M. Jarvis, to Clinton F. Israel, Treasurer. Friends of the Clarksburg Library have just donated a new charging desk to assist with refurbishing of the old building.

NEWS
FROM
COLLEGE LIBRARIES

On October 20, Secretary of Education, James E. Allen, son of a former Davis and Elkins president, gave the Founders Day address at the college. An addition to the library was opened and the library was dedicated in honor of Jennings Randolph; the building now is named Jennings Randolph Hall. Giving a short address was Librarian of Congress, Quincy L. Mumford, who flew in especially for the occasion.

Douglas Oleson, new head librarian at Davis and Elkins, reports that four private colleges, including his own, Salem, Alderson-Broadus, and West Virginia Wesleyan, have established a consortium whereby some library resources and staff will be mutually shared and developed. A request for installation of teletype service has been received by the Library Commission.

Floyd Miller, library director at Shepherd College, reports that after weeks of waiting and trial and error, their teletype is in operation. Shepherd is one of three colleges added to the network this year. The other two were West Liberty State College and Fairmont State College.

NATIONAL LIBRARY
WEEK
APRIL 12-18

Phil Place, of Cabell County Library in Huntington, has accepted the state chairmanship of National Library Week. Dual themes for this thirteenth observance are "Reading Is for Everybody" and "Read and

Listen in Your Library."

Sara Katherine Minesinger, who has served very ably as head librarian at the Swaney Memorial Library at New Cumberland for three years, died tragically in an automobile accident on November 17.

Effective October 1, Jeanine Kreyenbuhl resigned as Director of the Ohio County Library at Wheeling, to accept the Directorship of the library at her Alma Mater, College of Stuebenville, Ohio.

MEETINGS
OF
NOTE

Two-Day Seminar on Library Automation,
January 12-13, in National Museum of
History and Technology in Washington.

American Library Association Mid-Winter
Conference, Chicago, Sherman Hotel, January 19-24.

Marc II Special Institute, Shoreham Hotel, March 16-17, Washington, D. C.

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* Merry Christmas To All *
* And *
* A *
* Prosperous New Year For Your Library *
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